

REMARKS

The claims in the present application are now claims 1-17. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration.

The above amendments are made to correct the claim dependencies of those claims which are improperly multi-dependent under U.S. practice so that such claims will be examined.

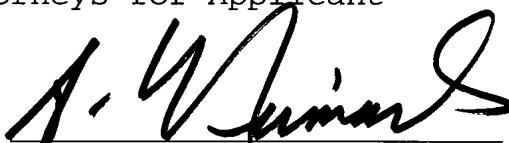
The amendments made above are made entirely without prejudice, the applicants respectfully reserving their right to add claims at a later stage commensurate in scope with claims which may have been eliminated by the removal of multi-dependencies. Regardless, the amendments made above are not "narrowing" amendments. The scope of the claims has not been reduced; no limitations have been added and none are intended.

Applicants respectfully await the result of a first examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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